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Editorial: Caring for the whole year

THE ISSUE

Day of Caring coincided with launch of the United Way of Howard County's 2014 campaign drive.

OUR VIEW

Let's help them reach their \$2 million goal.

If anyone wanted to know what the United Way of Howard County is all about, all they had to do is take a look around downtown Sept. 6 during the organization's annual Day of Caring.

According to the front page story written by Tribune reporter Mike Fletcher which we published Sept. 7, more than 350 volunteers gave a few hours of their lives to participate in 29 projects throughout the community.

"Along with helping out the library, volunteers helped tear off wallpaper and paint at the Kokomo Rescue Mission's Open Arms, did landscape work at Garden Square Apartments, painted the foyer and balcony at the Masonic Lodge, painted the auditorium at the Carver Community Center, painted the hallway and eating area at Project Access and assisted the Wildcat

Guardians with cleaning three sections of the Wildcat Creek,” reported Fletcher.

The event coincided with the opening the United Way’s Annual Campaign Drive, where the organization sets out to raise money for 16 local nonprofit organizations.

Beth Rattray, communication director at the United Way of Howard County, said the goal for this year’s campaign is \$2 million.

Like the Day of Caring, your donation to the United Way of Howard County impacts many different corners of the community. Organizations which receive funding include: 2-1-1 United Way Information & Referral, American Red Cross, Bona Vista, Boy Scouts of America, CASA, Carver Community Center, Family Service Association, Food Finders Food Bank, Girl Scouts, Literacy Coalition, Mental Health America, Project Access, The Salvation Army, Samaritan Caregivers, Visiting Nurse Service and the YMCA.

So, how can you help? Well, that’s easy. In addition to donating online with Paypal — or in person with cash, check or credit card — you can give through your employer in the form of a payroll deduction.

Let’s help make the spirit of the Day of Caring last all year long.